

# INFANTRY NEWS



A HOTLINE is maintained at the Infantry School specifically to receive questions and comments from soldiers in the field about publications, course requirements, career progression information, doctrine, and specific programs in progress at the School.

The Hotline number is DSN 835-7693; commercial (706) 545-7693; or 1-888-899-6985.

An answering machine will record the questions, and callers will receive replies to their questions and comments.

Callers should leave full name, unit, mailing address, and DSN or commercial phone number.

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THE U.S. ARMY Sergeants Major Academy (USASMA) will conduct two Armywide surveys, beginning in September 1999. The surveys, distributed on diskettes, will be sent to unit command sergeants major in the active and reserve components.

One of the surveys will focus exclusively on first sergeants. The intent is to accurately determine which tasks first sergeants actually perform.

The second survey will be completed by soldiers serving in battle staff NCO positions. Battle staff NCOs are staff sergeants, sergeants first class, master sergeants, and sergeants major who are assigned to staff positions in S-1/G-1, S-2/G-2, S-3/G-3, or S-4/G-4 sections. Again, the intent is to determine which tasks battle staff NCOs actually perform.

USASMA training managers will use the survey results to make necessary design changes to the courses by adding, eliminating, or modifying the tasks to be taught. Survey information gathered from those who actually perform the jobs is a critical piece of the analysis process, ensuring that the academy's course content remains current. Accu-

rate, timely feedback from the field enables training managers to design courses that best serve the needs of soldiers and their commanders.

Soldiers can complete the computer-generated surveys using computers in their units, libraries, learning centers, or homes. For more information, contact Stephen Chase at DSN 979-6716, commercial (915) 569-6716, or e-mail [chases@emh10.bliss.army.mil](mailto:chases@emh10.bliss.army.mil), or visit the USASMA Directorate of Training and Doctrine-Futures web page at [http://usasma.bliss.army.mil/website/dot/futures/futures\\_home.htm](http://usasma.bliss.army.mil/website/dot/futures/futures_home.htm).

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RANGER SCHOOL requires that students be physically, mentally, and medically prepared. Leaders and schools NCOICs in the field should make sure the soldiers they send to the course meet the following medical standards:

All students must arrive with complete health records, which must include the following:

- Current Ranger training physical examination (SF 88, 1993) and supporting documents; purpose of examination listed as "Ranger training"; dated within 12 months of the class starting date; signed by a physician stating that the student is medically qualified to attend Ranger training.

- Letter signed by commander verifying that a dental PANOREX exists at home station and is available upon request from sending unit, or a complete dental record if the soldier is in transient status. Standards of Medical Fitness will be in accordance with Army Regulation 40-501 (chapters 2, 5-3, 5-4, 5-6) and performed in accordance with Chapter 8.

Reminder: Students with a history of cold weather injuries will not be enrolled during winter classes (October through March). Students with a his-

tory of hot weather injuries will not be enrolled during summer classes (April through September).

Preventive measures against respiratory disease include the administration of pneumococcal vaccine April through September and additional bicillin (shot) October through March, following enrollment in the course.

Historically, 95 percent of the students who are not enrolled upon arrival fail to meet the medical requirements. Common problems include missing or incomplete health records, missing dental records or PANOREX statement, and incomplete physical examinations.

Sending soldiers back to their units because of these omissions wastes the soldiers' time, school slots, and temporary duty funds.

For further information, call the Ranger Training Brigade Senior Tactical Officer at DSN: 784-6413 or commercial (706) 544-6413.

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THE UNITED STATES MILITARY Academy (USMA), at West Point, New York, offers admission to approximately 200 Regular Army soldiers each year. Although some of these soldiers are offered direct admission, the majority are first admitted to the U.S. Military Academy Preparatory School (USMAPS) at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey.

USMAPS prepares soldiers for success at West Point through an intensive curriculum, focused on English and mathematics. An applicant must meet the following qualifications: Be a U.S. citizen, a high-school graduate, unmarried with no legal obligation to support dependents, under 23 years of age prior to 1 July of the year entering USMA (under 22 years of age prior to 1 July of the year entering the preparatory school), of high moral character, and have a sincere interest in attending West

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Point and becoming an Army officer.

Especially encouraged to apply are soldiers who meet the basic eligibility requirements, have achieved good grades in a college-preparatory high school curriculum, and SAT scores greater than 1000 or ACT composite scores of 20 or higher.

All application requirements must be met by 1 April 2000 for a soldier to be considered for an appointment in July 2000 to either USMA or USMAPS.

Interested soldiers should contact Major Rob Young at (DSN) 688-5780

or (914)938-5780; or by email at [tr9618@westpoint-emh2.army.mil](mailto:tr9618@westpoint-emh2.army.mil).

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THE SOLDIER INTERCOM SYSTEM enables soldiers to talk to each other at distances of up to 700 meters without giving away their positions. It also allows soldiers to operate in all kinds of terrain and environments.

A squad leader talks to the entire squad simultaneously on a separate channel that only the squad members can hear. On another separate radio,

he communicates with his immediate chain of command. This instant communication increases situational awareness and safety for soldiers in the field.

The soldier intercom has been in the hands of soldiers of the 75th Ranger Regiment and the 82d Airborne Division since November 1998. Other dismounted units will be getting the system through fiscal year 2001. Ultimately it will be used by Ranger, airborne, air assault, light infantry, and mechanized infantry units in tactical situations.